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Field Meet of April 17, 2008  
Lauren Dailey, Environmental Scientist  
State Water Resource Control Board  
Division of Water Rights

I Received an e-mail from Lauren Dailey April 14, 2008 that stated she planned to be in Ukiah Thursday April 17, 2008 to Inspect the Masonite Diversion site, and the District's well field located at the Treatment Plant at 2850 Redemeyer Rd.

I met Lauren at the District's administration office at approximately 11:00 am; I told her we would visit the Masonite Site first, since it was on the way to the Treatment Plant. We left the District office and drove south on N. State St.

Lauren inquired as to the location of the Masonite Plant, I explained that the Plant itself had been under demolition for several months and finally completed a week or two ago. I pointed out where the old plant had been located as we drove past the Mendo Mill lumberyard, and the freeway underpass.

We continued south on N. State St. to Ford Rd. continuing east under the freeway, I showed Lauren the approximate boundaries of the 190- acre parcel previously owned by Masonite, and sold to Dan Thomas and Charles Sawyer. After entering an electronic gate installed by Dan Thomas we traveled north to a second gate also installed by Thomas, located near the southeast corner of the Masonite percolation ponds. I was able to point out Masonite's remaining storage buildings and offices located west of the railroad tracks and south of the old plant site.

We continued traveling north along side the percolation ponds turning east on the road that separates the Masonite, Thomas properties, ending at the west bank of the Russian River, where wells # 3,4 and 5 are located. Lauren commented that the wells didn't look as though they had been in service for some time, I told her that well # 4 had been abandon years ago and even after Masonite had shut down they continued to pump water from wells 3&5, filling a large tank used for fire protection and landscape irrigation, and that the tank had just recently been removed during the demolition of the plant. I also informed her that vandals had recently cut down the power poles and removed the wire from the poles, the pump control panels, and removed the copper fuel lines and radiator from the diesel powered pump on well three.

I showed her where the 600,000 volt incoming power lines from PG&E traveled across the River to a pole located next to the well site, and continued west to a step down transformer located at the old Plant, where the power was reduced, and sent back over a second set of lines to the wells.

Lauren took photographs of each well and of the vandalized control panel for well 3, she was able to view the Russian River through the trees and commented on the poor looking water quality, and asked if the water in the river was released from coyote dam. I confirmed that some of the water did come from Lake Mendocino.

We departed the well site, and traveled west towards the percolation ponds, Lauren asked "so there was a second set of power poles that ran along this road from the plant?" I told her yes and indicated the location of where one of the poles had been cut. We left Masonite through the Thomas property to Ford Rd.

We headed south on Hwy.101 to the Perkins St. exit and east to Redemeyer Rd. to the Treatment Plant. I showed Lauren the well field and she took one photograph looking east from well 10, and a second photo of the River intakes looking west. I explained the District's need to pump water from the river to the recharge pond in the spring due to the shallow depth of the well field, and how the pumps located adjacent to the pond were screened and tied together through a common manifold that draws water from the pond.

We returned to the District's administration office, Lauren asked me to take a look at a map she had brought with her that showed the diversion points of Masonite and Millview. The map she produced was the map submitted by Jim Hansen with the Change petition for the Masonite License. She said she was unclear about what the District was petitioning for, I explained the District would like to add the Millview well field as a point of diversion to the Masonite license, and add the Masonite diversion points to the Districts other water right permits.

Lauren said she would keep me informed as work progressed on the petition, but it may be several months before any contact is made. This concluded our meeting.

Tim Bradley,  
General Manager